

Interview Summary

Application No.

09/514,999

Applicant(s)

Tanimoto et al.

Examiner

Irene Marx

Group Art Unit

1651



All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Irene Marx

(3) _____

(2) Mr. Arai

(4) _____

Date of Interview Apr 18, 2002

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☐ Personal [copy is given to 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No. If yes, brief description:

Claim(s) discussed: _____

Identification of prior art discussed: _____

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

The proposed amendment was discussed. It was indicated that the amendment from polyamine composition to "polyamines" would raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. It was pointed out that "said digested/hydrolyzed components lacks proper antecedent basis. Also the "two times" should be followed by a clause indicating the process compared regarding the doubling. A continuation may be filed..

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) ☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview (if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

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KNOBBE MARTENS

APR. 11. 2002 10:51AM

RCE

Serial No. 09/514,999
Art Unit 1651

Claim Amendment:

9 (Amended) A method of ~~manufacturing a~~ obtaining polyamines ~~composition~~, comprising the steps of:

providing yeast somatic components selected from the group consisting of extracts obtained from yeast by physical crushing, ~~or extracts obtained from yeast by~~ autolysis, ~~or extracts obtained from yeast~~ with hot water, and yeast RNA compositions;

subjecting said yeast somatic components to nuclease digestion ~~or~~ alkali hydrolysis ~~as a decomposition step to decompose a high molecular weight substance bound with polyamine wherein for a time period effective to increase a yield of polyamines recovered in a subsequent recovery step the amount of polyamine dissociated from said yeast somatic components is by approximately double~~ ^{over?} ~~two times or more; and~~

recovering polyamines from said digested/hydrolyzed components.

Re: 112 ¶1 Rejection

1. "approximately double or more": Examples 1, 2, and 3 show an increase by 3, 2.1, and 3.2 times, respectively, as compared with respective Comparative Examples 1, 2, and 3, wherein the only difference between the Examples and the Comparative Examples is omitting the decomposition step of Claim 9. The degree of purification of the starting material is not in issue.
2. Infinite upper limit: The upper limit is not important, and one of ordinary skill in the art can readily practice the claimed invention without an indication of the upper limit.
3. The comparison: It is clear that compared is a method without the decomposition step. No.

Re: 112 ¶2 Rejection

1. "a high molecular weight substance": Deleted.
2. "recovering polyamine": Polyamine is changed to polyamines (including more than one polyamine). Further, the preamble is changed to "obtaining polyamines".

Re: 103 Rejection

1. Polyamines are aliphatic hydrocarbon, not peptides or amino acids. Tanekawa teaches a process of producing a yeast extract containing GMP (guanosine-5'-monophosphate). The objective is obtaining flavoring agents. The other references except for Sato are the same as Tanekawa in this respect and are irrelevant to the recovery of polyamines.
2. Further, Tanekawa hydrolyzes yeast cells using alkali, but this is for obtaining a yeast extract (i.e., yeast somatic components). In Tanekawa, the yeast extract is not subjected to alkali hydrolysis, but to enzymatic hydrolysis to increase GMP (column 5, line 62 through column 6, line 17).
3. Sato teaches recovery of polyamine. Sato discloses treatment with a sodium hydroxide solution for neutralization purposes. This is clearly different from the decomposition step by alkali hydrolysis to significantly increase a yield of polyamines.
4. In conclusion, none of the references suggests that the decomposition step by nuclease digestion or alkali hydrolysis significantly increase a yield of polyamine.

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